

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for displaying chassis component information, comprising:

a chassis;

5 a plurality of server blades each coupled to the chassis; and

each server blade comprising a respective liquid crystal display (LCD) positioned upon the server blade, the respective LCD operable to display chassis component  
10 information.

2. The system of Claim 1, wherein the chassis component information comprises server blade information of the server blade upon which the respective LCD is  
15 positioned.

3. The system of Claim 2, wherein the server blade information comprises an IP address of the server blade.

20 4. The system of Claim 2, wherein the server blade information comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of slot assignment, chassis assignment, rack assignment and IP address information.

25 5. The system of Claim 1, wherein the respective LCD is operable to display chassis component information in color to indicate a message.

30 6. The system of Claim 1, wherein the chassis component information comprises chassis component activity information.

7. The system of Claim 1, wherein the chassis component information comprises at least one of temperature information and voltage information.

5 8. The system of Claim 1, wherein each server blade further comprises at least one respective control key associated with the respective LCD, the at least one respective control key operable to provide operational control of at least one chassis component.

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9. The system of Claim 8, wherein the at least one chassis component comprises the server blade of the at least one respective control key.

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10. The system of Claim 8, wherein the operational control comprises setup control of the server blade of the at least one respective control key.

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11. The system of Claim 8, wherein the operational control comprises power control of the server blade of the at least one respective control key.

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12. The system of Claim 1, wherein each server blade further comprises a respective management processor operable to drive the respective LCD, the management processor being operationally distinct from a main processor of the server blade such that the main processor may be inactive during operation of the respective LCD.

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13. The system of Claim 1, wherein each server blade further comprises:

a respective video output operable to output the chassis component information to an external display; and

5 a respective management processor operable to drive the respective video output, the respective management processor operationally distinct from a respective main processor of the server blade such that the respective main processor may be inactive during output of the  
10 chassis component information to the external display.

14. The system of Claim 1, wherein the respective LCD comprises a viewing area of approximately 14 mm x 11 mm.

15. A system for displaying chassis component information, comprising:

a chassis;

a chassis blade coupled to the chassis; and

5 the chassis blade comprising a liquid crystal display (LCD) positioned upon the chassis blade, the LCD operable to display chassis component information.

16. The system of Claim 15, wherein the chassis  
10 blade comprises a chassis management blade operable to manage switch fabric of the chassis.

17. The system of Claim 16, wherein the chassis component information comprises chassis component  
15 activity information..

18. The system of Claim 16, wherein the chassis component information comprises an IP address of the chassis management blade.

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19. The system of Claim 16, wherein the chassis component information comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of slot assignment, chassis assignment, rack assignment and IP address information.

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20. The system of Claim 16, wherein the chassis management blade further comprises at least one control key associated with the LCD, the at least one control key operable to provide operational control of at least one  
30 chassis component.

21. The system of Claim 20, wherein the operational control comprises setup control of at least one chassis component.

5        22. The system of Claim 20, wherein the operational control comprises power control of at least one chassis component.

23. The system of Claim 20, wherein the at least  
10 one chassis component comprises at least one chassis cooling fan.

24. The system of Claim 16, wherein the chassis management blade further comprises a management processor  
15 operable to drive the LCD, the management processor being operationally distinct from a main processor of the chassis management blade such that the main processor may be inactive during operation of the LCD.

20        25. The system of Claim 15, wherein the chassis blade comprises a network interface card.

26. A system for displaying chassis component information, comprising:

a chassis;

a plurality of server blades each coupled to the  
5 chassis; and

each server blade comprising a respective display device positioned upon the server blade, the respective display device operable to display network configuration information with respect to the server blade.

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27. The system of Claim 26, wherein the network configuration information comprises an IP address of the server blade.

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28. The system of Claim 26, wherein the respective display device comprises at least one light emitting diode (LED).

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29. The system of Claim 26, wherein the respective display device comprises a liquid crystal display (LCD).

30. A method for displaying chassis component information, comprising:

providing a chassis;

coupling a plurality of server blades to the  
5 chassis; and

displaying chassis component information on respective liquid crystal displays (LCDs) positioned upon each server blade.

10 31. The method of Claim 30, wherein displaying chassis component information comprises displaying server blade information of the server blades upon which the respective LCDs are positioned.

15 32. The method of Claim 31, wherein displaying server blade information comprises displaying an IP address of the server blade.

20 33. The method of Claim 31, wherein displaying server blade information comprises displaying at least one selected from the group consisting of slot assignment, chassis assignment, rack assignment and IP address information.

25 34. The method of Claim 30, wherein displaying chassis component information comprises displaying chassis component information in color to indicate a message.

30 35. The method of Claim 30, wherein displaying chassis component information comprises displaying chassis component activity information.

36. The method of Claim 30, wherein displaying chassis component information comprises displaying at least one of temperature information and voltage  
5 information.

37. The method of Claim 30, further comprising providing operational control of at least one chassis component with at least one respective control key of  
10 each server blade, the at least one respective control key associated with the respective LCD of the server blade.

38. The method of Claim 37, wherein providing  
15 operational control of at least one chassis component comprises providing operational control of the server blade of the at least one respective control key.

39. The method of Claim 37, wherein providing  
20 operational control of at least one chassis component comprises providing setup control of the server blade of the at least one respective control key.

40. The method of Claim 37, wherein providing  
25 operational control of at least one chassis component comprises providing power control of the server blade of the at least one respective control key.



41. The method of Claim 30, further comprising driving the respective LCDs with a respective management processor of each server blade, the management processor  
5 being operationally distinct from a main processor of the server blade such that the main processor may be inactive during operation of the respective LCD.

42. The method of Claim 30, further comprising:  
10 outputting to an external display the chassis component information with a respective video output of each server blade; and

driving the respective video output with a respective management processor of each server blade, the  
15 respective management processor operationally distinct from a respective main processor of the server blade such that the respective main processor may be inactive during output of the chassis component information to the external display.

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43. The method of Claim 30, wherein the respective LCD comprises a viewing area of approximately 14 mm x 11 mm.

44. A method for displaying chassis component information, comprising:

providing a chassis;

coupling a chassis blade to the chassis; and

5 displaying chassis component information on a liquid crystal display (LCD) positioned upon the chassis blade.

45. The method of Claim 44, wherein displaying chassis component information on an LCD positioned upon  
10 the chassis blade comprises displaying chassis component information on an LCD positioned upon a chassis management blade operable to manage switch fabric of the chassis.

15 46. The method of Claim 45, wherein displaying chassis component information comprises displaying chassis component activity information.

47. The method of Claim 45, wherein displaying  
20 chassis component information comprises displaying an IP address of the chassis management blade.

48. The method of Claim 45, wherein displaying chassis component information comprises displaying at  
25 least one selected from the group consisting of slot assignment, chassis assignment, rack assignment and IP address information.

49. The method of Claim 45, further comprising  
30 providing operational control of at least one chassis component with at least one control key of the chassis

management blade, the at least one control key associated with the LCD.

50. The method of Claim 49, wherein providing  
5 operational control of at least one chassis component comprises providing setup control of at least one chassis component.

51. The method of Claim 49, wherein providing  
10 operational control of at least one chassis component comprises providing power control of at least one chassis component.

52. The method of Claim 49, wherein providing  
15 operational control of at least one chassis component comprises providing operational control of at least one chassis cooling fan.

53. The method of Claim 45, further comprising  
20 driving the LCD with a management processor of the chassis management blade, the management processor being operationally distinct from a main processor of the chassis management blade such that the main processor may be inactive during operation of the LCD.

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54. The method of Claim 44, wherein the chassis blade comprises a network interface card.

55. A method for displaying chassis component information, comprising:

providing a chassis;

coupling a plurality of server blades to the  
5 chassis; and

displaying network configuration information on a respective display device positioned upon each server blade.

10 56. The method of Claim 55, wherein displaying network configuration information comprises displaying an IP address of the server blade upon which the respective display device is positioned.

15 57. The method of Claim 55, wherein displaying network configuration information on a respective display device comprises displaying network configuration information on at least one respective light emitting diode (LED).

20 58. The method of Claim 55, wherein displaying network configuration information on a respective display device comprises displaying network configuration information on at least one respective liquid crystal  
25 display (LCD).

59. A system for displaying server blade information, comprising a server blade with a liquid crystal display (LCD) positioned upon the server blade, the LCD operable to display server blade information.

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60. The system of Claim 59, wherein the server blade information comprises an IP address of the server blade.

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61. The system of Claim 59, wherein the server blade information comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of slot assignment, chassis assignment, rack assignment and IP address information.

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62. The system of Claim 59, wherein the server blade information comprises at least one of temperature information and voltage information.

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63. The system of Claim 59, wherein the server blade comprises at least one respective control key associated with the LCD, the at least one respective control key operable to provide operational control of the server blade.

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64. The system of Claim 63, wherein the operational control comprises setup control of the server blade.

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65. The system of Claim 63, wherein the operational control comprises power control of the server blade.

66. The system of Claim 59, wherein the server blade further comprises a management processor operable to drive the LCD, the management processor being operationally distinct from a main processor of the  
5 server blade such that the main processor may be inactive during operation of the LCD.

67. The system of Claim 59, wherein the LCD comprises a viewing area of approximately 14 mm x 11 mm.

68. A system for displaying chassis component information, comprising:

a chassis;

a plurality of server blades each coupled to a  
5 midplane of the chassis; and

each server blade comprising:

a respective liquid crystal display (LCD)  
positioned upon the server blade, the respective LCD  
operable to display:

10 an IP address of the server blade upon  
which the respective LCD is positioned;

chassis component activity information in  
color to indicate a message;

temperature information of at least one  
15 chassis component; and

voltage information of at least one  
chassis component; and

at least one respective control key associated  
with the respective LCD, the at least one respective  
20 control key operable to provide setup control and power  
control of the server blade of the at least one  
respective control key.

69. The system of Claim 68, wherein each server  
25 blade further comprises a respective management processor  
operable to drive the respective LCD, the management  
processor being operationally distinct from a main  
processor of the server blade such that the main  
processor may be inactive during operation of the  
30 respective LCD.

70. The system of Claim 68, wherein the respective LCD comprises a viewing area of approximately 14 mm x 11 mm.

5        71. The system of Claim 68, further comprising:  
a chassis management blade coupled to the midplane of the chassis;

the chassis management blade operable to manage switch fabric of the chassis; and

10        the chassis management blade comprising:

an LCD positioned upon the chassis management blade, the LCD operable to display at least one selected from the group consisting of slot assignment, rack assignment, chassis assignment and IP address  
15 information; and

at least one control key associated with the LCD, the at least one control key operable to provide setup control and power control of at least one chassis component.